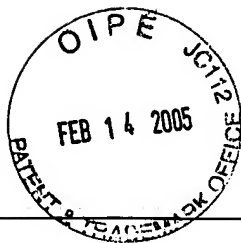


AK/ITW



PATENT

Certificate of Mailing (37 C.F.R. 1.8(a))

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first-class mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop Petition, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on the date set forth below.

Roberta Sherman

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Signature of Person Mailing Paper

February 10, 2005

Date of Deposit

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Serial Number: 10/026,667
Filing Date: 12/21/2001
Applicant(s): Raul R. Mena
Entitled: Implant Fixation Device
Examiner: Cary E. O'Connor
Group Art Unit: 3732
Attorney Docket No.: 17147-11

Mail Stop Petition
Commissioner For Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

AMENDMENT AFTER FINAL REJECTION
UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.116

Sir:

In response to the Final Office Action dated May 04, 2004, please amend and reconsider the above-identified Patent Application as follows, pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.116: